

## **VUS 5-The Constitution Study Guide**

1. What is a republic?
2. What was the first attempt at a government called in the United States?
3. What were the 5 weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation?
4. What could the Articles do?
5. Where did the Constitutional Convention meet?
6. What event showed the importance of the Constitutional Convention?
7. Why was George Washington an important figure at the Constitutional Convention?
8. Why was James Madison an important figure at the Constitutional Convention?
9. Who wrote the “Virginia Plan”? What did it say?
10. Who is considered the “Father of the Constitution”?
11. What did the Great Compromise say?
12. Did the southern states want slaves to be counted when determining the slave states’ membership in the House of Representatives? Why?
13. What compromise did the northern and southern states make regarding the slave states’ membership in the House of Representatives?
14. What three governmental branches did the Constitution create?
15. What is the name of the legislative branch of the federal government?
16. What does the legislative branch do?
17. What official leads the executive branch of the federal government?
18. What does the executive branch do?
19. What court leads the judicial branch of the federal government?
20. What does the judicial branch do?
21. Define checks and balances system
22. How many states had to ratify the Constitution before it could take effect?
23. Who were the Federalists? What did they believe?
24. Who were the Anti-Federalists? What did they believe?
25. Which group wanted a Bill of Rights included in the Constitution?
26. When did the Constitution take effect?
27. What two documents did Madison consult when he worked on the Bill of Rights?
28. Who wrote the Virginia Declaration of Rights?
29. What was the main idea of the Virginia Declaration of Rights?
30. Who wrote the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom? What did it say?
31. Which church had been the established church in colonial Virginia?
32. Does debate over the meaning of the Constitution still continue today?